



CHHS
and
CCSO



Cochise County Medication Disposal Program Proposal

Mary Gomez, Health Director

Jennifer Steiger, CHSS Program Coordinator

Carol Capas, CCSO Public Information Officer, Dispatch Supervisor

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The Problem

- **Deaths from drug overdose rising dramatically past 20 yrs**
- **Leading cause of injury death in the United States as of 2010**
- **Every day in the US, 105 people die as a result of drug overdose**
- **Another 6,748 are treated in emergency departments**
- **Nearly 9 out of 10 poisoning deaths are caused by drugs**



The Problem (Con't)

- In 2010, among people 25 to 64, drug overdose caused more deaths than MVAs
- Drug overdose death rates increased 102% from 1999 to 2010
 - 30,006 (78%) of the 38,329 drug overdose deaths in US were unintentional
 - 5,298 (14%) of suicidal intent
 - 2,963 (8%) were of undetermined intent
- In 2011, drug misuse and abuse caused about 2.5 million ER visits
 - More than 1.4 million visits were related to pharmaceuticals
 - Between 2004 and 2005, an estimated 71,000 children were seen in ERs each year because of medication overdose
- Among children under 6, pharmaceuticals account for about 40% of all exposures reported to poison centers



The Problem (Con't)

- In the US in 2007, prescription opioid abuse costs were about \$55.7B
 - 46% attributable to workplace costs (e.g., lost productivity)
 - 45% to healthcare costs (e.g., abuse treatment)
 - 9% to criminal justice costs
- Between 1998-2002, people who abused opioid analgesics cost insurers \$14,054 more than the average patient
- CDC - for every 1 overdose death from prescription painkillers there are:
 - 10 treatment admissions
 - 32 ER visits
 - 130 people who abuse or are dependent
 - 825 people who take prescription painkillers for nonmedical use

Why is proper med disposal important?

Environmental Concerns:

- Contamination of Public and Private Water Supplies – Approx. 35% disposal in sinks/toilets
- Contamination of Landfills – Approx. 50% disposal in landfills

Illegal distribution/nonmedical/recreational use

- 12+ million US teens and adults reported using Rx painkillers to get “high” or for other nonmedical reasons
- Party Bowls
- Nonmedical use of prescription painkillers costs more than \$72.5 B each year in direct health care costs



Program Overview



Phase I:

- Purchase ten (10) MedReturn II Units
- Affix Cochise County and CCSO logos on Units
- Purchase a Drug Terminator mobile incinerator
- Provide installation at ten (10) designated locations
- CHSS will provide full funding for Phase I with the use of our Community Health Assessment (CHA) grant funds received in the FY12-13
- CCSO will handle all of the day-to-day functions of the program
 - Regular pickups of medications from the Units
 - Storage of medications
 - Final disposal using the portable incinerator at regular intervals
- CHSS and CCSO will be able to provide reporting data on our collaborative program
- Estimates indicate a 1-3 month time frame is needed for delivery/installation of the units and incinerator with an anticipated start date of May 1, 2014

Program Overview (Cont'd)



Phase II:

- CHSS and CCSO to find a well equipped 400+ lb capacity incinerator that could be installed as a fixed permanent incinerator for the CCSO
- Once unit has been identified, CHSS and CCSO will then look for community partners and grant/or funding that may be used to assist with the purchase, installation, use and upkeep costs
- CCSO and CHSS will assess feasibility of subcontracting to other local LE agencies for use of the fixed unit to recoup/offset expenses
- Market as more efficient local resource for destruction of medications and other materials gathered by LE

What are MedReturn II Units?



- A safe, effective, sustainable way to provide an easy to use community drug collection process
- Cost is \$675/ea including s/h. Total Cost = \$6,750
- Units will display Cochise County & Sheriff's Office logos
- Units will be placed in secure, indoor locations that are accessible to the public.
- Specifications:
 - Constructed of 14-gauge powder-coated steel
 - Measures 54" tall x 22" wide x 17" deep, Wt 120lbs
 - Secure enclosure to be bolted from inside
 - Includes one 50-quart plastic tote
 - Medicine drop opening is 11" wide x 8" high



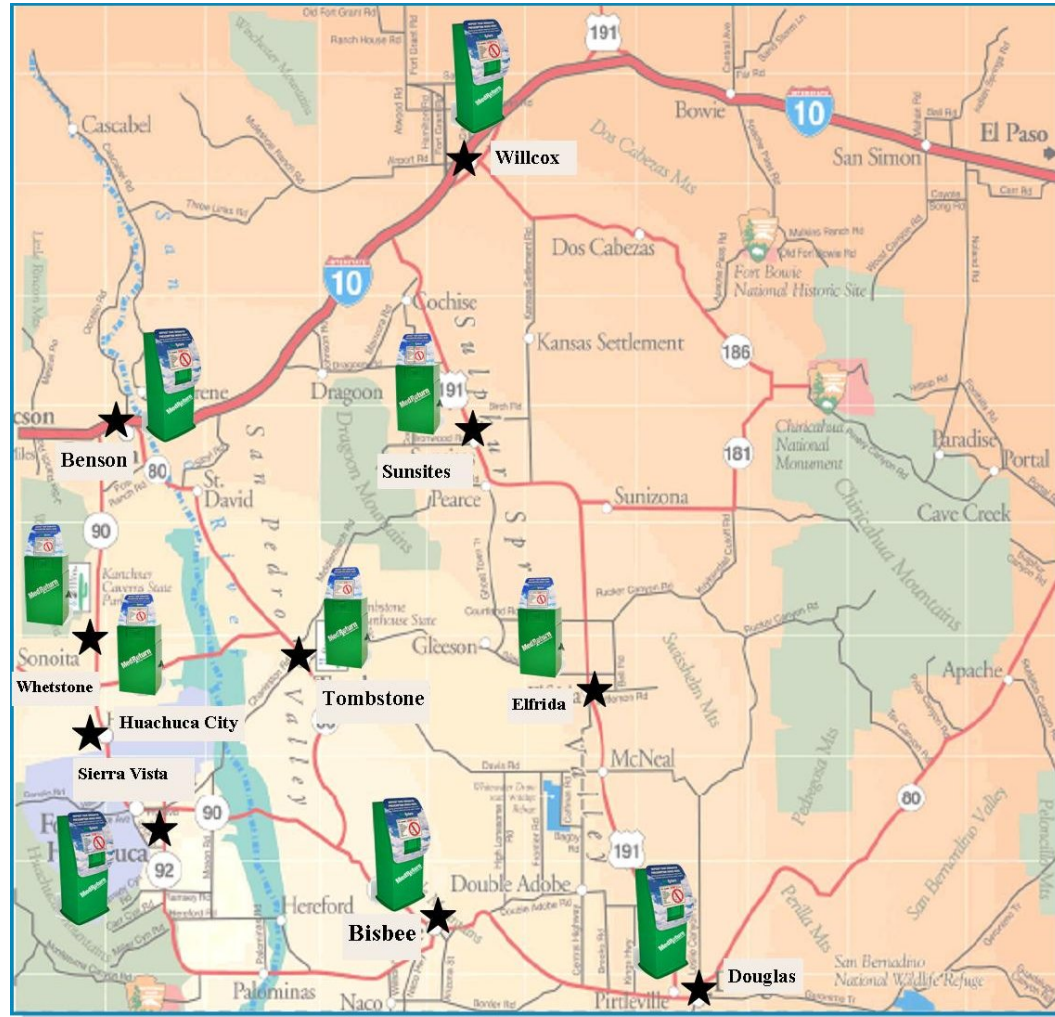
Which communities will have MedReturn II Units?

Our Confirmed Community Partners:

Benson Hospital
Bisbee Police Department
Douglas Fire Department
Elfrida Fire Department
Fry Fire Department
Huachuca City Fire Department
Sunsites Fire Department
Tombstone Fire Department
Whetstone Fire Department
Willcox Police Department



Which communities will have MedReturn II Units?



What types of medications will be accepted?

Accepted :

Prescriptions, Prescription Pads, Prescription Medications, Prescription Ointments, Over the Counter Medications, Vitamins, Medication Samples, and Medications for Pets

Items NOT accepted:

- Hydrogen Peroxide, Inhalers, Aerosol Cans, Any Liquids, Medications from Businesses, Doctors Offices or Clinics, Needles, and Thermometers



How will the CCSO handle day to day operations of the program?

- Minimal employee time needed and upkeep costs will be nominal - staff will be able to perform this service within their regular duties.
- CCSO will designate Program Coordinator as liaison.
- Utilize the services of the current Evidence Custodians in each patrol district and/or Sheriff's Assist Team members.
- Each unit to be cleared at least bi-monthly.
- Items collected will be transported to the main Evidence room in Bisbee to be cataloged/documented.
- Destruction schedule will be implemented to allow for collected items to be destroyed on a regular basis and prevent backlog.



What is the Drug Terminator Incinerator?

Description:

- Mobile incinerator for disposal of illicit and prescription drugs
- Portable, easy to use, designed for safe and efficient disposal of drugs
- Used by LE when other disposal options are limited
- Cost is \$3,200, plus \$200 s/h - Total Cost = \$3,400
- No facility preparation or special arrangements are needed
- Can transport this unit as needed to various locations



Specifications:

- Wood or charcoal fired
- Cyclone of intense heat destroying drugs quickly and complete
- 110 and 220 volt versions available
- Volume of material is reduced to an average of 1% ash
- Non-combustible drug paraphernalia is sterilized by heat and can be disposed in municipal waste
- Uses what is specified by ISO Standards as a removable head or "open-end" 55 gallon drum
- Burns: Marijuana, Cocaine, Methamphetamines, Opiates, Ecstasy, Heroin, Paraphernalia, Pharmaceuticals



Why Does Cochise County Need An Incinerator?

Issues:

- LE agencies in Cochise County do not have a local resource to dispose of prescription or illicit drugs
- LE agencies in Cochise County are required to store these items until a DEA Officer can pick up for incineration in Marana or Phoenix creating difficulties with storage space
- Not every community in County will have a Disposal Unit

Benefits:

- Portability will allow use in any community for scheduled “take back” days
- Provide a local resource for incineration for the CCSO
- Allow other local LE agencies to use this resource for a fee
- CCSO, and potentially other agencies, will be able to reduce storage issues with easier, frequent access to an incinerator



Overall Program Benefits:

- Reduce environmental risks from improper disposal of medications
- Reduce risks from illness, abuse and overdose due to improper use, storage and/or disposal of medications for children and adults
- Provide Cochise County with a permanent local means of disposing of prescription and illicit drugs for residents and LE agencies
- Provide residents with access to a free, easy to use resource in ten locations county wide
- Provides CHSS and CCSO with a way to further fulfill their mission statements and commitments to Cochise County to improve public health and safety
- Provide CHSS with the ability to address one need identified in the CHA completed in December 2012



Program Start-Up Costs

*Fully funded by CHSS CHA
Grant*



Phase I:

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| • Med Return II Units – 10 @ \$675 each including s/h = | \$6,750 |
| • Elastec Drug Terminator – 1 @ \$3,200 + s/h @ \$200 = | \$3,400 |
| • Med Return II Unit Installation (estimated) = | \$1,850 |
| • <u>Cochise County and CCSO logos on all Med Return II Units =</u> | <u>\$2,000</u> |
| • Phase I Total | \$14,000 |
- Costs for maintenance of units and incinerator is not expected to be exorbitant
 - CHSS and CCSO will monitor these expenses closely, work together to cover any ongoing expenses, and ensure all equipment is maintained properly to avoid need for premature replacement of parts or equipment.

Phase II Costs

- CHSS & CCSO will work on developing cost analysis
- Anticipate it will be significant
- Factors/Needs to be considered for Phase II:
 - Purchase of a 400+ lb capacity fixed incinerator
 - Land development needed at or near CCSO offices for a fixed unit
 - Construction costs for a concrete foundation for incinerator to be installed on and construction costs for roadway or parking if needed
 - Utility installation costs for gas, electrical or water that will be needed for a fixed incinerator
 - Security for incinerator site
 - Ongoing costs of fuel, electricity, maintenance, warranties
 - Explore feasibility of subcontracts with local agencies
 - Explore possible grant resources to assist with purchase, development and ongoing expenses



Recommendations

Approve Cochise County Medication Disposal Program

Phase I:

Approve and authorize immediate implementation for a Phase I roll out date of May 1, 2014

Phase II:

Approve and authorize CHSS & CCSO to begin formal research on Phase II for consideration in FY14-15



Resources

- [Disposal of Unwanted Medicines: A Resource for Action in Your Community](#) Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant from U.S. EPA Great Lakes National Program, 2009
- http://web.extension.illinois.edu/unusedmeds/disposal/Unwanted_Meds_Toolkit_April_2011.pdf
- [CDC Vital Signs: Prescription Painkiller Overdoses - A Growing Epidemic, Especially Among Women](#)
- [CDC Vital Signs: Prescription Painkiller Overdoses in the US](#)
- [CDC Public Health Grand Rounds: "Prescription Drug Overdoses: An American Epidemic"](#)
- [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration \(SAMHSA\)](#)
- [CDC's Medication Safety Program](#)
- [CDC's Protect the Ones You Love: Poisonings](#)
- [American Association of Poison Control Centers, Inc.](#)



Questions??

